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EAST HERTFORDSHIRE COMBINED DISTRICTS

ANNUAL REPORT

of the health of



WARE RURAL DISTRICT

Report presented by

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

AUGUST 1963

97 NEW ROAD
WARE

WARE RURAL DISTRICT

Annual Report on the Health of the District
for the year 1962

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EAST HERTFORDSHIRE COMBINED DISTRICTS
REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1962
W A R E R U R A L D I S T R I C T

PREFACE

To the Chairman and Councillors, Ware Rural District.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the health of the Rural District of Ware for the year ending 31st December, 1962.

The health of the District during the past year has been excellent and calls for no other comment. The mistaken fear that a smallpox contact had entered the East Hertfordshire district in January caused alarm but fortunately the fear proved to be groundless. Nevertheless, the widespread demands for vaccination amongst hitherto unvaccinated persons emphasise the importance of vaccination during the first two years of life, preferably the second year. At the same time the value of immunisation against diphtheria, poliomyelitis and whooping cough must not be forgotten. All these facilities are readily available and should be used in order that a high degree of immunity be obtained and maintained in the general population.

Careful supervision of water from wells and bores has continued throughout the year and the majority of the samples taken have proved to be perfectly satisfactory. The remainder are under constant surveillance and householders are given necessary advice.

Improvement has continued in the provision of main sewerage and further schemes are in preparation.

When it is found that 51.7% of all the deaths occurring in the District in 1962 were in persons over the age of 70, we can consider that East Hertfordshire's reputation for longevity has been maintained.

I wish to thank the Chairman and Council for the support I have received from them during the past year and also Mr. Goold and Mr. Bower for their constant help and support.

I must also record my appreciation of the cordial co-operation I have received from the other Chief Officers and the Clerical staff.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,
Your Obedient Servant

GORDON M. FRIZELLE



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Tel: Hoddesdon 2040.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

Senior Public Health Inspector (and Surveyor)
A.D.G. GOOLD

Certificate of the R.S.I. and S.I.E.J. Board.
Certificate for Inspectors of Meat and Other Foods.
Smoke Inspector's Certificate.

Additional Public Health Inspector - J. G. BOWER

M.A.P.H.I. and Certificate for Meat & Food Inspection.

Rural District Council Offices,
97, New Road,
Ware, Herts.

Telephone: WARE 2292

Clerical duties in the Public Health Department are under-
taken by Mr. M. J. Rush, Senior Clerk, Engineer & Surveyor's
Department.

--oOo--

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

During the Session 1962/63 Public Health matters were dealt
with by the Council under the Chairmanship of Councillor
Mr. C. A. Spence.

S E C T I O N A

GENERAL STATISTICS 1962

Table 1

(Figures for 1963 are shown in brackets)

POPULATION

Estimated Mid-Year Population of Ware Rural District

12,300 (12,260)

Natural Increase or decrease	+ 1
Migration in or out	+ 39

GENERAL STATISTICS

<u>Area in Acres</u>	29,060
----------------------	--------

Number of Inhabited Houses according to Rate Books

3,516 (3,498)

Number of Houses per acre	0.12
Number of Persons per acre	0.45
Number of Persons per house	3.5

<u>Rateable Value of District</u>	£469,891 *
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<u>Sum Represented by a Penny Rate</u>	£1,830 *
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* As at 1st April, 1963

VITAL STATISTICS 1962

Table 2
(Figures for 1961 are shown in brackets)

<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>	Total	159	(214)
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population		12.92	(17.55)
Area Comparability Factor for Births		1.00	(1.02)
Standardised Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population		12.92	(17.90)

<u>STILL BIRTHS</u>	Total	3	(4)
Still-births rate per 1,000 live and still births		18.86	(18.35)

<u>BIRTHS</u>	Total Live and Still-births	162	(218)
---------------	-----------------------------	-----	-------

		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Live Births	Total Number	86	73	159
	Legitimate	85	71	156
	Illegitimate	1	2	3
Still Births	Total Number	1	2	3
	Legitimate	1	2	3
	Illegitimate	0	0	0
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births		1.88	(4.67)	

COMPARISON RATES

	<u>Ware Rural District</u>	<u>Hertford County</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>
Live Birth Rate	12.92	18.91	-
Area Comparability Factor	1.00	0.9	-
Standardised Birth Rate	12.92	16.37	18.0
Still Birth Rate	18.86	14.22	18.1

VITAL STATISTICS
Table 2 continued

<u>INFANT DEATHS</u>		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Infants under one year	Total	3	1	4
	Legitimate	3	0	3
	Illegitimate	0	1	1
Neo-Natal Mortality (first four weeks included above in total of infant deaths of under one year)				
	Total	3	1	4
	Legitimate	3	0	3
	Illegitimate	0	1	1
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	Total	25.16	(60.75)	
	Legitimate	18.87	(63.73)	
	Illegitimate			
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births (first four weeks)		25.16		

MATERNAL DEATHS

Maternal Deaths, including abortion	-
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still-births	-

COMPARISON RATES

	<u>Ware Rural District</u>	<u>Hertford County</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>
Infant Mortality Rate	25.16	17.76	20.7
Legitimate	18.87	17.45	-
Illegitimate	-	24.67	-
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate	25.16	13.02	15.1
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate	2.51	11.35	-
Perinatal Mortality Rate	4.4	31.73	-
Maternal Mortality Rate	-	0.19	0.35

VITAL STATISTICS
Table 2 continued

DEATHS

Total Deaths of all ages	158	(143)
Males	101	(87)
Females	57	(56)
Death Rate per 1,000 population	12.84	(10.58)
Area Comparability Factor for Deaths	0.91	(0.91)
Standardised Death Rate per 1,000 population	11.56	(9.38)

COMPARISON RATES

	<u>Ware Rural</u> <u>District</u>	<u>Hertford</u> <u>County</u>	<u>England</u> <u>& Wales</u>
Death Rate	12.84	9.57	-
Area Comparability Factor	0.91	1.13	-
Standardised Death Rate	11.56	10.81	11.9

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES

(Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during the year.)

Diseases	Total all Ages	Age Groups in Years					
		Under 1	1-	5-	15-	25-	Over 65
Measles	151	6	59	84	2	-	-
Whooping Cough	2	-	1	1	-	-	-
Pneumonia	2	-	-	1	-	1	-
Infective Hepatitis	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Erysipelas	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Infective Jaundice	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Salmonella	1	-	-	-	-	1	-

Incidence of Diseases during the different months

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Month and number of cases</u>
Measles	April (42), May (36); June (26), July (30), August (12), November (3) December (2).
Whooping Cough	February (2)
Pneumonia	February (1), March (1).
Infective Hepatitis	March (1)
Erysipelas	March (1)
Infective Jaundice	November (1)
Puerperal Pyrexia	June (1)
Salmonella	September (1)

Distribution of Diseases amongst the Different Parishes

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Disease</u>
Eastwick	Nil
Gilston	Nil
Great Amwell	Measles (2)
Great Munden	Nil
Hunsdon	Measles (75)
Little Munden	Nil
St. Margarets	Measles (5)
Standon	Measles (2), Pneumonia (2), Infective Hepatitis (1), Erysipelas (1), Infective Jaundice (1).
Stanstead Abbots	Measles (55), Puerperal Pyrexia (1), Salmonella (1)
Thundridge	Measles (1)
Ware Rural	Nil
Widford	Measles (2), Whooping Cough (2)

TUBERCULOSIS

The following is a Summary of Tuberculosis Notifications etc. during 1962.

The year commenced with 99 cases on the register.

	<u>Pulmonary</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>
Males	37	13
Females	38	11
Five new cases were notified for the first time:		
Males	1	-
Females	3	1
There was one inward transfer from another area:		
Males	1	-
Females	-	-
Three patients died:		
Males	3	-
Females	-	-
Seven patients left the District:		
Males	1	1
Females	5	-
Six patients were pronounced CURED:		
Males	1	1
Females	3	1
Twelve patients were lost sight of:		
Males	4	2
Females	3	3
The year therefore ended with 77 cases on the register		
Males	30	9
Females	30	8

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1962

<u>Line No.</u>		<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
	ALL CAUSES	101	57
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	0
2	Tuberculosis, other	0	0
3	Syphilitic disease	0	0
4	Diphtheria	0	0
5	Whooping Cough	0	0
6	Meningoccal infections	0	0
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0
8	Measles	0	0
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	0	0
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	1
11	" " , lung, bronchus	4	1
12	" " breast	0	2
13	" " uterus	0	2
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	10	2
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	0	1
16	Diabetes	0	0
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	16	10
18	Coronary disease, angina	21	10
19	Hypertension with heart disease	1	2
20	Other heart disease	7	12
21	Other circulatory disease	4	3
22	Influenza	1	0
23	Pneumonia	8	1
24	Bronchitis	7	4
25	Other disease of respiratory system	0	0
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	0
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	0	0
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	0	0
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	2	0
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	0	0
31	Congenital malformations	1	1
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	7	4
33	Motor vehicle accidents	4	1
34	All other accidents	3	0
35	Suicide	0	0
36	Homicide and operations of war	0	0

GENERAL STATISTICS

The slow population increase continues, the mid-year estimate for 1962 being 12,300 inhabitants, only 40 more than in 1961. This is not really surprising occurring as it does in a large rural area of 29,060 acres which has little or no industry to speak of. The number of inhabited houses rose from 3,498 to 3,516, the number of houses per acre remained at the same figure of 0.12, while the number of persons per acre and the number of persons per house showed a slight increase.

VITAL STATISTICS

There was quite a sharp decline in the number of live births from 214 to 159 and the still births fell from 4 to 3.

There were 4 deaths in infants under one year of age and once again there were no maternal deaths attributable to pregnancy, childbirth or abortion.

While there was a fall in the number of births there was an increase in the total number of deaths, there having been 168 in 1962 as compared with 143 in 1961.

With a fall in the birth rate and an increase in the death rate, the total population is being maintained by inward migration. Unless this inward migration continues and is to a large extent composed of young married couples, the outlook for an increase or even a ~~measure~~ measure of stability in the total population is not encouraging.

CAUSES OF DEATH

Once again all forms of heart disease were responsible for the greatest number of deaths, these being 60 out of 168, or 35.7%. All forms of malignant disease came equal second with 26 or 15.4% of the total deaths. Vascular lesions of the nervous system had exactly the same figure.

Bronchitis was responsible for 11 deaths as was also that unsatisfactory descriptive heading "other defined and ill-defined diseases".

There was 3 deaths due to motor accidents, 1 due to a railway accident and 1 to accidental asphyxiation. While the Registrar General shows 4 deaths in infants under 1 year of age, the records in this office show 5, 3 being due to prematurity, 1 to congenital

malformation and 1 to broncho-pneumonia.

Deaths in 5 yearly age groups from the age of 70 onwards are as follows:-

<u>70-74</u>	<u>75-79</u>	<u>80-84</u>	<u>85-89</u>	<u>90-94</u>	<u>95-100</u>
24	23	21	14	4	1

These are very similar to the figures reported for 1961 and total 87 or 51.7% of all the deaths in the year. When more than half the total number of deaths in a community occur over the age of 70 there can be little to take exception to regarding the general health of that community.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Apart from 151 cases of measles no comment is necessary regarding the incidence of infectious disease.

As far as the smallpox scare early in the year is concerned the following are the facts: -

Early in January cases of smallpox imported from Pakistan were reported from London, Birmingham, Cardiff and Bradford. Later in the year an outbreak also occurred in Glamorgan.

On 13th January a girl collapsed in Harrow and was taken by ambulance to hospital where she subsequently died. Later that date the ambulance which took her to hospital conveyed three patients who were being discharged from hospital to Liverpool Street Station where one of them was placed in a train to Bishop's Stortford. At Bishop's Stortford the patient was met by an ambulance and taken home to Essex.

After admission to hospital, the symptoms of the girl who had collapsed led to a provisional diagnosis of smallpox being made. In consequence, the hospital was closed, Liverpool Street Station was informed and the train which conveyed the returning patient to Bishop's Stortford was taken out of service at Broxbourne at 10.28 p.m. Here the police advised passengers to seek vaccination from their own doctors.

Reports which started to reach me late on the night of Saturday, 13th January, were confused and contradictory. It was well into the early hours of Sunday morning before a clear picture began to emerge and this was largely due to the invaluable assistance I received from the Hertford Ambulance Station, in particular the Ambulance Supervisory Officer on duty, to whom I am much indebted.

In the meantime doctors in many parts of East Hertfordshire were being wakened with demands for immediate vaccination. Early on Sunday morning arrangements were made for the procurement of stocks of vaccine.

On Sunday, 14th January, however, a post mortem examination on the deceased girl revealed that the cause of death was not smallpox at all and the hospital was accordingly reopened.

As soon as the full facts became known, especially the important fact that there was no question of smallpox, all doctors and authorities concerned were informed and a comprehensive statement was made to the Press to whom I am very grateful for the wide publicity they gave in order to allay alarm. This emphasizes the important role the Press can play in assisting the Health Department.

Despite the fact that there was no cause for alarm, doctors in East Hertfordshire as elsewhere in the country were overwhelmed by requests for vaccination from persons who could not remotely be deemed to be contacts. This diverted supplies of vaccine from the areas where they were most needed to such an extent that for a time a National Rationing System had to be imposed. This was relaxed as additional stocks of vaccine became available.

The lesson to be learnt from this local incident as well as from the genuine outbreaks elsewhere is the importance of infant vaccination as pointed out in the preface to this report.

TUBERCULOSIS

There was a considerable reduction in the number of cases of tuberculosis during the year, the total falling from 99 to 77. 28 cases were removed from the register, 3 having died, 7 having left the district, 6 having been cured and 12 having been lost sight of. 6 were placed on the register there being 1 inward transfer and 5 new notifications.

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS

The customary inspections of food premises continued throughout the year. Nothing was discovered which required any statutory action.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS 1948-1951

No action was necessary under Section 47 of these Acts.

OLD PEOPLE'S WELFARE & MEALS ON WHEELS

On 10th April, 1962, a meals on wheels service for the Parishes of Eastwick, Gilston and High Wych was begun by the W.V.S. Meals were supplied twice a week and charged at 1/3d. per meal. During term time the meals were prepared at Little Parndon School and by Key Glassworks, Harlow, during school holidays. The Council paid a subsidy towards these meals for the Parishes of Eastwick and Gilston while the Braughing Rural District Council made an appropriate contribution for the Parish of High Wych.

Approximately three dozen meals are served twice a week.

A similar service for High Cross and Thundridge was begun on 8th May, 1962, while the Dane End and Mundens areas are also being supplied.

BUILDING

No new houses were built by the Council during 1962. Private enterprise built 14 houses and 4 flats.

S E C T I O N B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR WARE RURAL DISTRICT

LABORATORY SERVICE

Laboratory facilities are provided by the Public Health Laboratory Service at Cambridge.

In emergency, certain (Medical) specimens can be examined at the Laboratory of the Hertford County Hospital, Hertford.

COUNTY COUNCIL HEALTH SERVICES

The following County Council Services under the National Health Service Act, 1946, are available for Ware Rural District Council. Full details can be obtained from the County Medical Officer, County Hall, Hertford.

Home Nursing, Midwifery, Health Visiting and Welfare Centres.

Number of Nurses - 5. Welfare Centres - 6
(including 1 Mobile Clinic).

Vaccinations, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough & Poliomyelitis Immunisations.

A Medical Officer at the Welfare Centre will vaccinate or immunise babies at the request of parents. Family Doctors will also provide this prophylaxis free of charge.

Home and Domestic Help

Applications for this Service should be addressed to the Local Organiser at 27, Bull Plain, Hertford (Telephone: Hertford 3232).

Care and After Care

Applications for recuperative holidays, if recommended, by the Medical Attendant, should be made to the County Medical Officer.

Equipment can be issued on loan to patients being nursed at home. A Medical Loan Depot has been established in the Town. Address available at Council Offices. A charge may be made for both the above Services.

Ambulance Service

There are Ambulance Stations at Hertford (Tel: Hertford 3013), Bishop's Stortford (Tel: Bishop's Stortford 1101), Ware (Tel: Ware 2141). Except in emergency an Ambulance should be ordered by a Medical Practitioner.

Mental Health

Arrangements for mental treatment on the recommendation of a Medical Practitioner are made by the Mental Health Officer Mr. J. H. Webster, Collett Road, Ware, Herts. (Tel: Ware 2541).

Help in respect of Mentally Defective persons can be obtained by application to the County Medical Officer.

An Occupation Centre for defective children has been established in Hertford.

HOSPITAL SERVICES

The area is served by the Hertford County Hospital, Hertford, and the Herts and Essex General Hospital, Bishop's Stortford, Herts.

Chronic Sick can receive hospital treatment at Western House Hospital, Collett Road, Ware.

Western House also provides beds under Part III of the National Assistance Act, 1948, on behalf of the County Council.

MEDICAL AND DENTAL SERVICES

Six doctors practise in Ware Rural District.

There are no Dental Surgeons in the District but the area is served by Dental Surgeons at Hertford, Hoddesdon, Ware, Buntingford and Bishop's Stortford.

OTHER SERVICES

There is an Old Peoples' Welfare Committee at Standon and Puckeridge; also an independently managed "Welcome Club" with a membership of 120 persons.

Women's Institutes are active at ten centres in the District.

S E C T I O N C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA -

REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

For the Year 1962

WATER SUPPLY

Two parishes in the southern extremity of the district, Great Amwell and Stanstead St. Margarets, are within the statutory area of the Metropolitan Water Board and supplied by them with a public supply of water. The source is the Rye Common Pumping Station and there is a reservoir at Hertford Heath. The water is subject to filtration and chlorination. It is a hard chalk water.

The remainder of the Rural District is supplied by the Lee Valley Water Company. The source of the Lee Valley Water Company's supply is a pumping station at Standon where there are two boreholes in the chalk. The water is pumped into supply after chlorination. A water tower at Old Hall Green acts as a balancing reservoir.

PRIVATE WATER SUPPLY

There are approximately 70 private bores and wells in the district still being used for domestic purposes. They serve over 130 properties. Routine samples have been taken from most of these premises throughout the year and the majority were found to be satisfactory. There were, however, still several not up to standard and it appears that in these cases the only remedy is a completely new supply. In the latter cases occupiers have been advised to boil all water before use and in the meantime owners have been requested to consider providing alternative supplies.

Quality of Water

Bacteriological

In addition to samples submitted by the Public Health Department for analysis, the Lee Valley Water Company send monthly reports of bacteriological sampling to this Council. Every result sent by the Company has been satisfactory.

Distribution of Water Services

Dwellinghouses supplied by public water mains in 1962:-

Parish	Number of houses	Population (approx)	Main direct to house	Main to stand-pipes
Eastwick	64	211	56	8
Gilston	63	174	63	-
Great Amwell	722	2349	705	5
Great Munden	106	454	74	17
Hunsdon	363	1149	347	7
Little Munden	173	524	159	13
St. Margarets	64	219	64	-
Standon	871	2753	830	18
Stanstead Abbots	477	1533	447	10
Thundridge	255	846	234	6
Ware Rural	239	1091	203	9
Widford	135	344	117	18
TOTAL	3532	11643	3299	111

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Standon and Puckeridge

These two villages provide a common drainage area and sewers have been laid to a point in Paper Mill Lane, Standon, from which the sewage is raised to a Sewage Disposal Works south of the village. These works consist of a receiving chamber, balancing tank, sedimentation tank and duplicate rotary percolating filters followed by humus tanks.

The enlarged works come into commission in mid 1963.

High Cross and Wadesmill

These two villages which are in the southern portion of the Standon parish are drained to a pumping station at Wadesmill from which sewage is raised to join the Ware Urban District Council sewers at the Urban District Boundary on the main Cambridge Road. The sewage is ultimately disposed of at Rye Meads.

Great Amwell and St. Margarets

Great Amwell parish may be divided for drainage purposes into four areas.

(1) Hertford Heath, which is drained through an outfall (which is a joint responsibility of the Ware and Hertford Rural District Councils) to the Hertford Borough disposal works at Hertford.

(2) The Haileybury College area which is drained by means of a main sewer to the sewers of the Hoddesdon Urban District Council and eventually disposed of by them at their sewage works. Some properties in Hoddesdon Urban District made use of this outfall.

(3) The southern portion of Great Amwell village, which includes what is known as the Gypsy Lane area and the Old Mylne Estate. This is drained on each side of a water shed to ultimately join at the St. Margarets pumping station from whence the sewage is pumped into the Middle Lee Trunk Sewer and the sewage disposed of at Rye Meads. Properties in Hoddesdon Urban District are drained to this system in the Stanstead Road and St. Margarets Road areas.

(4) The northern portion of the village is now drained to a pumping station discharging to Rye Meads.

Stanstead Abbots

This village is drained to a point in Accommodation Road where the Council once had a pumping station. The village is now connected directly to the Middle Lee Trunk Sewer and sewage is disposed of at Rye Meads. The main sewers in this village are mostly 60 years old.

Hunsdon

The village is sewered to a sewage disposal works near Bonningtons. The works were purchased from the Air Ministry following the closure of the Royal Air Force aerodrome at Hunsdon

at the end of the war. Although modern in design, these works were only constructed for a temporary period and they are being worked at a decreasing efficiency each year. It has been decided to replace the existing pumping station and to instal pumps which can if necessary pump the sewage to Stanstead Abbots in the future. This station is in course of construction. A scheme for connection to the Middle Lee Disposal works has been approved by the Ministry and is expected to be completed during 1964.

Eastwick

This village is now drained to the Stort Valley sewer discharging to Rye Meads sewage disposal scheme.

Gilston

This village has been sewered in conjunction with Eastwick, and is now connected to Rye Meads.

Dane End

The village of Dane End in the parish of Little Munden has been sewered and sewage disposal works constructed in the village.

Haultwick

A scheme has been prepared to connect the drainage of Haultwick to the Dane End works via Green End.

Widford and Wareside

A scheme to drain these two villages in conjunction with Much Hadham in the Braughing Rural District was prepared in 1945 and submitted to the Ministry in 1946. Approval in principle was given in 1959. Approval to the detailed scheme has just been given. Tenders will be invited in 1963-64.

Connections

The number of properties connected to the main sewers during the year was 39.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Cesspools

The Council have continued their policy to discourage the construction of small water-tight cesspools and encourage the construction of septic tanks with either filters or land irrigation. There are few conventional type cesspools as far as is known although many old cesspools used as septic tanks are in need of improvement. The making of improvement grants has helped to improve the drainage of many houses and has provided modern type septic tanks. All new houses built where main drainage is not available must have well designed septic tanks.

The Council remove sludge from septic tanks once a year by means of their two cesspool emptying vehicles. The work is done to a definite time table and all occupiers of premises know, to within a week, when the tank will be de-sludged. Tanks which are too small or otherwise inadequate to deal with the drainage of the premises and need to be emptied more frequently are dealt with either by the owners themselves or by a private firm working under contract to the owner or by means of a request to the Council. One emptying per year is allowed free of charge by the Council if carried out in rotation according to the time-table.

Any emptying taken out of turn extra to the annual emptying has to be paid for on the scale of charges in force at the time. At the moment the charge is 30/-d. per load of approximately five to six hundred gallons with a minimum charge of £3.0.0d. This scale is to be altered to £3 per load of one thousand gallons as from February, 1963. Cesspools or septic tanks which are in the vicinity of public sewers and lie within the area shown on the Council's resolution map are not emptied free of charge at any time.

Pail Closets

The Council's cesspool emptying vehicles are fitted with hoppers and vacuum pumps for the purpose of taking the contents of pail closets. These are emptied twice a week throughout the whole district. They are emptied free of charge in an area which lies outside the prescribed areas which are in the proximity of the public sewers. The owners or occupiers of premises within the prescribed areas who require this service have to make

a request and pay 20/-d. per quarter for one pail to be emptied twice a week. This charge is intended to encourage property owners to convert their pail closets to water closets.

The number of pail closets in the district is over 300 but this figure will be greatly reduced when the sewerage schemes at Haultwick, Widford and Wareside are completed. In addition owners of houses situated outside the sewered areas are being encouraged to provide septic tank drainage with the aid of improvement grants.

Refuse Collection and disposal

Refuse is collected weekly throughout the district. One side-loading vehicle of 12 cubic yards capacity and a Dennis Paxit are used with a second side loader in reserve.

The refuse is disposed of at a central tip near Downfield Farm, Ware. One man is employed full time on the tip and uses a Chaseside shovel for the purpose of covering the refuse. There have been no fires on the tip and no reports of flies or vermin during the year. The Council have passed a resolution under Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936, prescribing the size and capacity of dustbins and approving the British Standard Dustbin.

There is a byelaw in force prohibiting the deposit of any liquid matter in a dustbin. Suppliers of hardware in the district have been informed of the Council's adoption of the British Standard dustbin and it has been suggested to them that purchasers should be encouraged to buy this dustbin in preference to other types. No prosecutions were taken during the year on account of refuse being placed in receptacles other than dustbins but quite an amount of suggestion has been necessary to improve the receptacles used by many inhabitants.

PARTICULARS OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S
VISITS DURING THE YEAR 1962.

Housing	235	Total brought forward	948
Complaints	115	Bakehouses	14
Drainage	106	Ice Cream Premises	28
Water Supply	214	Knackers Yard	4
Refuse Tips	61	Slaughterhouses	452
Caravans	169	Cowsheds and Dairies	-
Schools	12	Other Food Premises	152
Factories	32	Rats and Mice	107
Infectious Diseases	8	Licensed premises	34
Swimming Pools	6	Miscellaneous	56
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Total carried forward	948	TOTAL	1795

HOUSING ACTS 1936 to 1954

New Housing by private enterprise

New dwellings erected -	18
Conversion or adaptations in terms of family units -	-

By Local Authority

New dwellings erected -	-
Conversions or adaptations in terms of family units -	-

By Other Authorities

(County Council, Police, etc.)	-
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Total properties controlled by the Council

Council Houses	1059
Temporary prefabricated bungalows	-
Sundries (including shops)	-

Slum Clearance

Little action in this direction has been necessary. The number of houses in the district requiring condemnation appears to have reached a minimum although there still remains a very high percentage of dwellings where improvements are needed.

Only 27 houses have been improved with the aid of a grant during the year **but** it is hoped that more owners will take advantage of this scheme in the near future.

Details of properties dealt with under Slum Clearance are as follows:-

No. of properties dealt with in Clearance areas	-
No. of individual unfit houses	3
No. of Closing Orders made	3
No. of Undertakings given	-
No. of properties demolished	6

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS

Slaughtering and Meat Inspection

Slaughtering of animals for human consumption has continued at the two licensed slaughterhouses. Details of carcasses and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part, are shown in the following table:-

	Cattle (excl. cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
No. killed during 1962	1202	7	65	4176	1668
No inspected during 1962	1202	7	65	3911	1668
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci-					
Whole carcase condemned	1	-	2	-	2
Part carcase or organ condemned	90	-	-	4	38
Tuberculosis only -					
Whole carcase condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Part carcase or organ condemned	-	-	-	-	10
Cysticercosis -					
Part carcase or organ condemned	3	-	-	-	-
Treated by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-

Other Foods condemned

Canned Foodstuffs

Fruit	Nil
Meat	11 lbs.

Total weight of all foods condemned -
18 cwt. 71 lbs.

Food Premises

In addition to two slaughterhouses the following Food Premises, which number as shown, were inspected from time to time during the year :

Bakehouse	3
Butchers	8
Grocers	25
Fishmongers	3
Cafés	7
Sweets & Confectionery	12
Canteens	21
Public Houses	44

Registered Food Premises

The following premises are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955:-

Ice Cream Premises	44
Manufacturers of)	
Sausages and)	8
Preserved Foods)	

2 new premises were licensed during the year for the sale of prepacked ice cream.

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1960

Inspections of all food premises were made during the year. A general improvement in standards has been achieved although there are still several premises that do not comply fully with the Hygiene Regulations.

Milk and Dairies

The responsibility for the registration of the four dairies in the district has now been taken over by the County Council.

Biological Sampling

No samples of milk were reported as positive to the tubercle bacillus during the year.

Caravan Sites (Caravan Sites & Control of Development Act, 1960)

9 Single site licences are in operation apart from the sites at The Duke of Wellington Public House, Barwick (20), and Taylor's Site at Puckeridge (25); all are for individual caravans.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Rodent Control

Rodent Control under the above Act is in full operation in this District. The Council employ a part-time operator who is principally engaged on this work.

The table below sets out the action taken during the year:-

	Type of Property				
	Council Property	Dwell- ing Houses	Agricul- tural	Business Premises	Total
No. of properties inspected	4	117	48	4	173
No found to be infested by rats	4	107	10	3	124
No. seriously infested by mice	-	2	-	-	2
No. of properties treated for infestations	4	109	10	3	126
No. of block control schemes carried out	-	-	-	-	-

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S E C T I O N D

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

The following is a summary of information already supplied in detail to the Ministry of Labour and National Service on Form 572 (Revised) in respect of the year 1962.

Part 1 of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health

Factories without Mechanical Power

Number on Register	-
Inspections	-

Factories with Mechanical Power

Number on Register	48
Inspections	32

Other Premises under the Act

(Electric Stations, Institutions, Sites of Building Operations, Works of Engineering Construction but excluding Outworker's Premises).	8
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2. Cases in which Defects were found

<u>Defect</u>	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>
Sanitary conveniences		
(a) Insufficient	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	5	5
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-
Total defects referred to H.M. Inspector		Nil
Total defects referred by H.M. Inspector		1

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PART VIII of the Act

<u>OUTWORK</u> (Sections 110 and 111)	9
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